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Fifty-seventh session

Second Committee

Agenda item 84 (e)

Macroeconomic policy questions: international
financial system and development

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee,
Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal consultations
held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.4**

International financial system and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, both entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and the promotion of economic and social equity",

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the Heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,¹

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which the Assembly endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,² which was adopted by the Conference on 22 March 2002, as well as the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,³ adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development on 4 September 2002,

Reiterating that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends on good governance within each country and at the international level, and stressing that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation, and that

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

³ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.



transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and the commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system are equally essential,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should support sustainable development, sustained economic growth and poverty reduction and allow for the mobilization, in a coherent manner, of all sources of financing for development, including the mobilization of domestic resources, international flows, trade, official development assistance and external debt relief,

Expressing concern at the fact that developing countries have made net outward transfers of financial resources over the last five years, and underlining the need for measures at the national and international levels to reverse this trend, while taking note of efforts to this end that have been made thus far,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "International financial system and development",⁴

1. *Expresses concern* over the difficulties of the present world economic situation, stresses the importance of confronting it through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions, and underlines the importance of continued efforts to improve global economic governance and strengthen the United Nations leadership role in promoting development;

2. *Stresses* the importance of strong domestic institutions to promote business activities and financial stability for the achievement of growth and development, inter alia, through sound macroeconomic policies and policies aimed at strengthening the regulatory systems of the corporate, financial and banking sectors;

3. *Stresses* the special importance of creating an enabling international economic environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote equitable economic development in a world economy that benefits all people, and, in this context, invites developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, when formulating their macroeconomic policies, to take into account their effects in terms of an external economic environment favourable to growth and development;

4. *Underlines* the importance of promoting financial stability, and reiterates that measures to mitigate the impact of excessive volatility of short-term capital flows and to improve transparency of and information about financial flows are important and must be considered;

5. *Notes* that important international efforts are under way to reform the international financial architecture; emphasizes that those efforts need to be sustained with greater transparency and with the effective participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and that one major objective of the reform is to enhance financing for development and poverty eradication; and underscores furthermore the commitment set forth in paragraph 53 of the Monterrey Consensus² to sound domestic financial sectors, which make a

⁴ A/57/151.

vital contribution to national development efforts, as an important component of an international financial architecture that is supportive of development;

6. *Takes note* of the communiqué of the Development Committee of 28 September 2002, in particular its paragraph 10, on the need to identify pragmatic and innovative ways to further enhance participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international decision-making and norm-setting, and encourages all relevant international financial institutions to take concrete measures towards this end;

7. *Invites* the International Monetary Fund to continue its work on quotas, and welcomes the continuing consideration by the Fund of its quota review and the reiteration by the International Monetary and Financial Committee that the Fund should have adequate resources to fulfil its financial responsibilities and that quotas should reflect developments in the international economy;

8. *Underlines* the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support developing countries' efforts to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty reduction and the strengthening of their democratic systems, while reaffirming that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, and that national policies have the leading role in the development process;

9. *Stresses* the need for multilateral financial institutions, in providing policy advice and financial support, to work on the basis of sound, nationally owned paths of reform that take into account the needs of the poor and efforts to reduce poverty, and to pay due regard to the special needs and implementing capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, aiming at economic growth and sustainable development, and that the advice should take into account social costs of adjustment programmes, which should be designed to minimize negative impacts on the vulnerable segments of society, and underscores the importance in this regard of gender-sensitive employment and poverty eradication policies and strategies;

10. *Invites* the multilateral, regional and subregional development institutions to complement national efforts to strengthen domestic financial and regulatory systems with a view to creating a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate and thus attracting and enhancing inflows of productive capital, thereby contributing to increasing economic growth and eradicating poverty;

11. *Invites* multilateral and regional development banks to continue to play a vital role in serving the development needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to contribute to providing an adequate supply of finance to countries that are challenged by poverty, follow sound economic policies and may lack adequate access to capital markets, and to mitigate the impact of excessive volatility of financial markets, and underlines that strengthened regional development banks and subregional financial institutions add flexible financial support to national and regional development efforts, enhancing ownership and overall efficiency, and that they serve as a vital source of knowledge and expertise on economic growth and development for their developing member countries;

12. *Stresses* the need for structural reforms to strengthen corporate governance, accounting and auditing, in particular when inadequate policies can have systemic consequences;

13. *Underscores* that it is essential to ensure the effective and equitable participation of developing countries in the formulation of financial standards and codes, and in this regard underscores that it is also essential to ensure implementation, on a voluntary and progressive basis, as a contribution to reducing vulnerability to financial crisis and contagion, and stresses the need for the Fund to further strengthen its surveillance of all economies, with particular attention to short-term capital flows and their impact;

14. *Notes* the impact of financial crisis or risk of contagion in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, regardless of their size, and in this regard underlines the need to ensure that the international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, have a suitable array of financial facilities and resources to respond in a timely and appropriate way in accordance with their policies;

15. *Stresses*, in the consideration of any new debt resolution mechanism, the importance of a broad discussion in the appropriate forums, with the participation of all interested actors, welcomes the steps taken by the international financial institutions to take into account social aspects and the borrowing costs for developing countries, encourages them to continue their efforts in that regard, and reiterates that the adoption of such a mechanism should not preclude emergency financing in times of crisis;

16. *Encourages* the exploration of ways of generating new public and private innovative sources of finance for development purposes, provided that those sources do not unduly burden developing countries, and takes note of the proposal of using special drawing rights allocations for development purposes, set forth in paragraph 44 of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development".



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Agenda item 84 (b)

Macroeconomic policy questions: commodities

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee,
Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal consultations held
on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.5**

Commodities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/183 of 20 December 2000 and stressing the urgent need to ensure its full implementation,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the Heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,¹

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,² adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

*Taking note also of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010³ and *The Least Developed Countries Report, 2002*,⁴*

Taking note further of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁵

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August to 4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

³ A/CONF.191/11.

⁴ United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.02.II.D.13.

⁵ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.



Taking note also of the targets set out in the 1996 Rome Declaration and Plan of Action⁶ and the outcome of the World Food Summit: five years later, which reaffirms the pledge to end hunger,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization,⁷ held in Qatar from 9 to 14 November 2001,

Taking note with concern of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on world commodity trends and prospects,⁸ which examines the declining trend of most commodity prices,⁹

Reiterating the importance of maximizing the contribution of the commodity sector to economic growth and sustainable development, while continuing with diversification efforts in developing countries, especially in commodity-dependent countries, and bearing in mind operative paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 55/183,

Recognizing that commodity-dependent developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, are highly dependent on primary commodities as their principal source of export revenues, employment, income generation and domestic savings, and as the driving force of investment, economic growth and social development,

Recognizing also that structural changes in international commodity markets, particularly the increasing concentration in trade and distribution, constitute new challenges for commodity producers and exporters in developing countries,

Recognizing that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and further recognizing that enhancing the role of women at all levels and in all aspects of rural development, agriculture, nutrition and food security is imperative, and furthermore that sustainable agriculture and rural development are essential for the implementation of an integrated approach to increasing food production and enhancing food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,

Expressing deep concern about the negative effects of unfavourable weather conditions on the supply of most commodity-dependent developing countries, the continuing depressed levels of most commodity prices and the dramatic falls in recent years in prices of commodities of particular interest to developing countries, which adversely affect the economic growth of commodity-dependent developing countries, especially countries in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries,

Expressing concern about the difficulties experienced by the developing countries in financing and implementing viable diversification programmes, which are essential for sustainable development and for attaining access to markets for their commodities,

⁶ See *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996, Part One* (Rome, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1996), appendix.

⁷ See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

⁸ A/57/381, annex.

⁹ *Ibid.*, sect. I.B.

Emphasizing the need for a domestic industrial transformation of commodity production in the developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, with a view to enhancing productivity and stabilizing and increasing their export earnings, thus promoting the sustainable economic growth of developing countries and their integration into the global economy,

Recognizing that commodity prices are an important element for heavily indebted poor countries that are commodity-dependent in maintaining long-term debt sustainability,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for efforts by the developing countries that are heavily dependent on primary commodities to continue to promote a domestic policy and an institutional environment that encourage diversification and liberalization of the trade and export sectors and enhance competitiveness;

2. *Expresses* the urgent need for supportive international policies and measures to improve the functioning of commodity markets through efficient and transparent price-formation mechanisms, including commodity exchanges, and through the use of viable and effective commodity price risk management instruments;

3. *Expresses concern* at the declining terms of trade for most primary commodities, in particular for net exporters of such commodities, as well as the lack of progress in many developing countries in achieving diversification, and in this regard strongly emphasizes the need for actions at both the national and international levels, inter alia, to improve market access conditions, address supply-side constraints and provide support for capacity-building, inter alia, in areas that actively involve women;

4. *Urges* Governments and invites international financial institutions to continue to assess the effectiveness of the systems for compensatory financing of export-earnings shortfalls, and in this regard stresses the importance of empowering developing commodity producers to insure themselves against risk, including natural disasters;

5. *Also urges* the developed countries to continue to support the commodity diversification and liberalization efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries, especially countries in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in a spirit conducive to promoting a common purpose and efficiency, inter alia, by providing technical and financial assistance for their commodity diversification programmes;

6. *Urges* producers and consumers of individual commodities to intensify their efforts to reinforce mutual cooperation and assistance;

7. *Reiterates* the importance of maximizing the contribution of the commodity sector to economic growth and sustainable development, while continuing with diversification efforts in developing countries, in particular in commodity-dependent developing countries, especially those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries and, in this respect, stresses that:

(a) International support for the efforts of developing countries in the industrial transformation of their commodities is required to increase their export

revenues and improve their competitiveness, with a view to facilitating their integration into the global economy;

(b) In the area of agriculture, it is important to fulfil, without prejudging the outcome of the negotiations, the commitment for comprehensive negotiations initiated under article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture, as referred to in the Doha Ministerial Declaration,¹⁰ aiming at substantial improvements in market access; reductions of, with a view to phasing out all forms of, export subsidies; substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support; pursuing negotiations on market access for non-agricultural products aimed at reducing or, as appropriate, eliminating tariffs, including the reduction or elimination of tariff peaks, high tariffs, and tariff escalation, as well as non-tariff barriers, in particular on products of export interest to developing countries; and implementing other relevant areas of the World Trade Organization work programme;

(c) In line with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,² adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, mutual supportiveness between the multilateral trading system and the multilateral environmental agreements, consistent with sustainable development goals, should be promoted in support of the work programme agreed through the World Trade Organization, while recognizing the importance of maintaining the integrity of both sets of instruments;

(d) In the light of the process of multilateral trade liberalization, which has led to the diminution of differentials accorded by preferred trade regimes, there is a need to take measures, as appropriate and consistent with international obligations, to address that diminution, in particular by strengthening technical assistance, by continuing to provide financial assistance to commodity-dependent developing countries and by addressing supply-side constraints faced by these countries, in order to improve the competitiveness of their commodity sectors and to overcome difficulties encountered in their diversification programmes;

(e) Timely and effective financial cooperation should be maintained and further pursued to facilitate the management by commodity-dependent developing countries, especially those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, of excessive fluctuations in commodity export earnings, and in this regard stresses that it is important to pursue diversification as part of a long-term solution;

(f) Strengthening technical cooperation in the areas of transfer of new technologies and know-how in production processes and training for technical, managerial and commercial staff in developing countries is of paramount importance for quality improvements in the commodity sector;

(g) Expansion of South-South trade and investment in commodities enhances complementarities and offers opportunities for intersectoral linkages within and among exporting countries;

(h) There is a need to promote, expand and intensify research and development, to provide infrastructure enterprise development, technology and support services and to encourage investment, including joint ventures in developing countries engaged in the commodity and commodity-processing sectors;

¹⁰ A/C.2/56/7, annex.

3. *Underlines* the need to strengthen the Common Fund for Commodities and encourages it, in cooperation with the International Trade Centre, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant bodies, to continue to strengthen the activities covered by its Second Account in developing countries with its supply chain concept of improving access to markets and reliability of supply, enhancing diversification and value addition, improving competitiveness of commodities, strengthening the market chain, improving market structures, broadening the export base and ensuring the effective participation of all stakeholders;

9. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, to provide assistance to developing countries in promoting commodity diversification and to include issues related to commodities in the provision of analytical support and technical assistance to developing countries in respect of their effective participation in multilateral trade negotiations;

10. *Encourages* efforts to promote cooperation between relevant international organizations on commodity issues;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within existing budgetary resources, supplemented by voluntary contributions as appropriate, to designate independent eminent persons to examine and report on commodity issues, including the volatility in commodity prices and declining terms of trade and the impact these have on the development efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries, for consideration by the executive session of the Trade and Development Board and subsequently by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on world commodity trends and prospects, taking into account, inter alia, the report and subsequent considerations requested in paragraph 11 above;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "Commodities".



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Agenda item 93

High-level international intergovernmental
consideration of financing for development

Ensuring effective secretariat support for sustained follow-up to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.62

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.62, the General Assembly would, inter alia:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to establish appropriate secretariat support arrangements along the lines envisioned in paragraph 48 of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development (A/57/344);

(b) Decide that the functions of the new secretariat support structure should be of an integrating, cross-cutting and holistic nature, and that it should, inter alia, serve as a focal point in the United Nations Secretariat for overall follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Conference; provide secretariat support to the intergovernmental process entrusted with the follow-up to the Conference; support and facilitate the participation of all stakeholders; follow closely issues and policies related to international economic, financial and development cooperation; and keep under review actions taken at all levels in follow-up to the Conference, as well as within the framework of international economic, financial and development cooperation in general;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to accord priority to the following main tasks related to follow-up activities: (i) promoting coherence and an integrated approach within the United Nations to issues related to financing for development, fully utilizing the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination mechanism; (ii) intensifying interactions with the secretariats of the World Bank, the



International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, as well as with other institutional stakeholders; (iii) continuing the involvement of other relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations and the private sector; and (iv) preparing inputs for consideration by the intergovernmental bodies concerned;

(d) Decide that the provisions of the present resolution should be implemented, by utilization of existing resources, starting at the beginning of 2003;

(e) Request the Secretary-General to seek voluntary contributions to support the follow-up to the Conference.

2. The above-mentioned functions would be carried out by a new Financing for Development Office in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. As requested by the Committee for Programme and Coordination in paragraph 107 of its report,¹ proposals for a new subprogramme on financing for development, under programme 7, Economic and Social Affairs, of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005, will be presented together with the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

3. It is also foreseen that demands on existing substantive capacities and the scope of the tasks to be accomplished will increase substantially in responding to the resolution, and that the proposed consolidation will afford absorption to the maximum extent possible within existing resources. There are, however, specific tasks, particularly relating to the intensification of interactions and the efforts to facilitate the participation of all stakeholders, which are considered new and additional to current tasks carried out.

4. In the interest of optimizing the use of existing resources, it is the intention of the Secretary-General to carry out the programme of work envisaged under the draft resolution through consolidation of finance aspects of development and the redeployment of related staff resources under relevant subprogrammes in the newly established Financing for Development Office for the duration of the biennium 2002-2003. This will enable the creation of a critical mass of capacity for policy analysis in support of intergovernmental deliberations on finance for development issues, which will make it possible to provide distinctive, focused support for the follow-up to the Monterrey Consensus.² This will be carried out in an integrating, cross-cutting and holistic manner, including the finance for development related aspects of the outcomes of relevant United Nations conferences, and within the framework of international economic, financial and development cooperation in general, as required under the draft resolution. It is initially estimated that the staff resources of the Office will consist of a total of 14 posts at the Professional level and above and 5 General Service (Other level) posts. Of the total number of posts required, 10 Professional and above (2 D-1, 2 P-5, 2 P-4, 3 P-3, 1 P-2) and 3 General Service (Other level) posts will be redeployed from within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Additional posts, consisting of 1 D-2, 1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-3 and 2 General Service (Other level), would therefore be required from the regular budget.

5. During the course of 2003, posts and non-post requirements to implement the activities will be met through ad hoc interim measures for the use of existing resources referred to above, together with the utilization of residual extrabudgetary resources under the existing trust fund which provided support to the International Conference on Financing for Development and its preparatory process. In this

regard, it is the intention of the Secretary-General to seek the concurrence of donors to utilize the balance of the trust fund to provide support to the follow-up to the Conference, as well as seek voluntary contributions, as provided for in paragraph 8 of draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.62.

6. However, the need to provide leadership for the programme of work envisaged and to expedite and manage the consolidation of the finance aspects of development within the new office in 2003, would necessitate the appointment of a Director at the D-2 level as Head of the new Financing for Development Office to be financed under the United Nations regular budget. The Director would be responsible for serving as the focal point in the United Nations Secretariat for the provision of secretariat support for sustained follow-up within the United Nations system of the implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development, as contained in the Monterrey Consensus. It is also estimated that other staff and non-staff resources would be required from the regular budget, in view of the complexity of the tasks. However, it is the intention of the Secretary-General to request such additional resources in the context of his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005. At this stage, it is anticipated that the additional resources associated with one new D-2 post could not be absorbed within the provisions of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

7. As regards the phrases "within existing resources" and "utilization of existing resources" in paragraphs 3 and 7, respectively, of the draft resolution, the attention of the Committee is drawn to the provision in resolution 45/248, part B VI, in which the General Assembly:

(a) Reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administration and budgetary matters;

(b) Reaffirmed also the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(c) Expressed its concern at the tendency of its substantive Committees and other intergovernmental bodies to involve themselves in administrative and budgetary matters;

(d) Invited the Secretary-General to provide all intergovernmental bodies with the required information regarding procedures for administrative and budgetary matters.

8. Should draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.62 be adopted, additional expenditures of \$203,200 would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, to be charged against the contingency fund, to cover the salary of one D-2 post, common services costs and staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount for income from staff assessment. Appropriate action in that regard would be taken by the General Assembly during its current session, in accordance with the procedure established by the Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987.

9. Every effort has been made to absorb requirements for envisaged activities within existing resources. However the requirements identified for regular budget financing in 2003 cannot reasonably be deferred and is thus proposed for establishment in 2003.

Notes

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/57/16).*

² *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. 1, resolution 1, annex.*



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Agenda item 87 (b)

Environment and sustainable development:

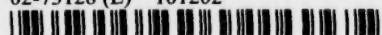
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

**Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee,
Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), following informal consultations
held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.22**

The General Assembly decides:

(a) To consider the issue of natural disasters and vulnerability at its fifty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" of the agenda item entitled "Environment and sustainable development";

(b) To request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the negative impacts of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters on vulnerable countries, in particular developing countries, in a separate section of his report on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.





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Agenda item 84 (a)

**Macroeconomic policy questions: international
trade and development**

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee,
Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal
consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.37**

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/182 of 20 December 2000 and 56/178 of 21 December 2001 on international trade and development,

Recalling also the Plan of Action adopted at the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,¹

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and the interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development,

Taking note of the outcome of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001,² and noting that the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization to be held at Cancun, Mexico, in September 2003, will take stock of progress in the negotiations,

Recalling the provisions of the United Nations Millennium Declaration³ dealing with trade and related development issues, as well as the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development, held at Monterrey, Mexico,

¹ TD/390, part II.

² See A/C.2/56/7.

³ See resolution 55/2.



from 18 to 22 March 2002,⁴ and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002.⁵

Reiterating the importance of continued trade liberalization in developed and developing countries, including in sectors of export interest to developing countries, and bearing in mind paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 55/182,

Recalling that the domestic efforts made by many developing countries in recent years to reshape their economies, in particular by autonomous trade liberalization, will be more effective if they are matched by enhanced and predictable market access for their main export priorities in goods and services, and by effective support for the development of their supply capacity, and in this regard bearing in mind paragraph 28 of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁶

Noting the proposals made to implement the work programme of the World Trade Organization including those to liberalize international agricultural and non-agricultural trade,

Noting also the significant contribution of the multilateral trading system to economic growth, development and employment, and the importance of maintaining the process of reform and liberalization of trade policies as well as the importance of rejecting the use of protectionism so that the system plays its full part in promoting recovery, growth and development, in particular of developing countries,

Recalling that, to benefit fully from trade, which in many cases is the single most important external source of development financing, the establishment and enhancement of appropriate institutions and policies in developing countries, as well as in countries with economies in transition, are needed, and that, in this context, enhanced market access, balanced rules and well-targeted, sustainably financed technical assistance and capacity-building programmes for developing countries also play important roles,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments of the Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization⁷ to place the needs and interests of developing countries at the heart of the work programme adopted in the Declaration and to continue to make positive efforts designed to ensure that developing countries, especially the least developed among them, secure a share in the growth of world trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development;

2. *Takes note* of the in-depth review undertaken by the Trade and Development Board with respect to developments and issues in the post-Doha work programme of particular concern to developing countries and its contribution to an understanding of the actions required to help developing countries secure beneficial and meaningful integration into the multilateral trading system and the global

⁴ See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7).

⁵ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

⁶ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁷ A/C.2/56/7, annex.

economy and to achieve a balanced, development-oriented and successful outcome at the end of the Doha process;

3. *Also takes note* in this regard of the relevant work of other international organizations;

4. *Expresses concern* about the adoption of a number of unilateral actions that are not consistent with rules of the World Trade Organization, harm the exports of all countries, in particular those of developing countries, and have a considerable bearing on the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations and on the achievement and further enhancement of the development dimension of the trade negotiations;

5. *Acknowledges* the measures taken to increase market access consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization for some developing countries, and in particular for the least developed countries, and further recognizes the importance of enhanced and predictable access to all markets for the exports of developing countries;

6. *Considers that*, in the context of the current world economic situation, the multilateral trading system should be reinforced by achieving a balanced outcome of the Doha negotiations that responds to the interests of all members of the World Trade Organization, in particular developing countries, by giving concrete shape to the development-related provisions of the work programme of the World Trade Organization, and by working to ensure that the concerns of developing countries, in particular in terms of implementation issues and special and differential treatment, are properly and effectively addressed in accordance with the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha, as amended by the action of the General Council of the World Trade Organization;

7. *Reiterates* the need for the deadlines in the negotiating process, as established in the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha,⁸ and as amended by the General Council of the World Trade Organization, to be respected;

8. *Recognizes* that trade rules and issues in the post-Doha framework should have a clear development content and, in this regard:

(a) *Expresses determination* to take concrete action to address issues and concerns that have been raised by many developing country members regarding the implementation of some agreements and decisions of the World Trade Organization, including the difficulties and resource constraints that have been encountered in the implementation of obligations in various areas;

(b) *Affirms* that provisions for special and differential treatment are an integral part of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations by which the World Trade Organization was established, and that all special and differential treatment provisions should be reviewed with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational, and notes the importance of paragraph 12.1 (i) of the Decision on Implementation-related Issues and Concerns of 14 November 2001, adopted by the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization,⁹

⁸ See A/C.2/56/7, annex, paras. 45 and 46.

⁹ WT/MIN(01)/17.

(c) Affirms that ongoing negotiations should aim at clarifying and improving disciplines in the areas of anti-dumping, subsidies and countervailing measures taking into account the needs of developing countries, including the least developed countries, while preserving the basic concepts, principles and effectiveness of those agreements and their instruments and objectives;

(d) Considers that, in the area of agriculture, without prejudging their outcome, the commitment to the comprehensive negotiations initiated under article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture,¹⁰ as referred to in the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha and aimed at substantial improvements in market access, reductions of all forms of export subsidies with a view to phasing them out and substantial reductions in trade distorting domestic support, should be fulfilled, with it being agreed that the provisions for special and differential treatment for developing countries should be an integral part of all elements of the negotiations and should be embodied in the schedules of concession and commitments and, as appropriate, in the rules and disciplines to be negotiated, so as to be operationally effective and to enable developing countries to effectively take account of their development needs, including food security and rural development, with note being taken of the non-trade concerns reflected in the negotiating proposals submitted by members of the World Trade Organization and with it being confirmed that non-trade concerns would be taken into account in the negotiations as provided for in the Agreement on Agriculture, in accordance with the Ministerial Declaration;

(e) Considers that negotiations in trade in services should be conducted with a view to promoting the economic growth of all trading partners and the development of developing and least developed countries, that there should be no a priori exclusion of any service sector or mode of supply and that special attention should be given to sectors and modes of supply of export interest to developing countries, and recognizes the work already undertaken in the negotiations and the large number of proposals submitted by members on a wide range of sectors and several horizontal issues, as well as on movement of natural persons;

(f) Reaffirms the commitments made with respect to the interpretation and implementation of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights¹¹ in a manner supportive of public health and promotion of access to medicine for all, including full and timely implementation of the Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health adopted by the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization on 14 November 2001;¹²

9. *Acknowledges* the seriousness of the concerns expressed by the least developed countries in the Zanzibar Declaration adopted by their ministers responsible for trade in July 2001 and recognizes that the integration of the least developed countries into the multilateral trading system requires meaningful market access, support for the diversification of their production and export base, and trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building;

¹⁰ See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² WT/MIN(01)/DEC/2.

10. *Stresses* the importance of facilitating the accession of all developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, that apply for membership in the World Trade Organization, and bearing in mind paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution 55/182 and subsequent developments;

11. *Reaffirms* the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization held at Doha and at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,¹³ and, in this regard, calls upon developed countries that have not already done so to work towards the objective of duty-free, quota-free market access for all least developed countries' exports, and notes that consideration of proposals for developing countries to contribute to improved market access for least developed countries would also be helpful;

12. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to actively pursue the work programme of the World Trade Organization with respect to addressing the trade-related issues and concerns affecting the fuller integration of small, vulnerable economies into the multilateral trading system in a manner commensurate with their special circumstances and in support of their efforts towards sustainable development, in accordance with paragraph 35 of the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha;

13. *Further reaffirms* the commitment to full and faithful implementation of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing¹⁰ and calls for further progress in its implementation which is a necessary and inherent condition of full implementation of the agreements arising from the Uruguay Round;

14. *Stresses* the importance of clarifying and improving disciplines and procedures under the existing provisions of the World Trade Organization applying to regional trade agreements in accordance with the relevant mandate of the Fourth Ministerial Conference, taking into account the developmental aspects of these agreements, and urges the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with its mandates, to provide technical inputs in this respect;

15. *Also stresses* the importance of the Doha mandate for negotiations on market access for non-agricultural products which should aim to reduce or, as appropriate, eliminate tariffs, including the reduction or elimination of tariff peaks, high tariffs and tariff escalation, as well as non-tariff barriers, in particular on products of export interest to developing countries, and reaffirms that preferences granted to developing countries pursuant to the Decision of the Contracting Parties on Differential and More Favourable Treatment, Reciprocity and Fuller Participation of Developing Countries of 28 November 1979 ("Enabling Clause")¹⁴ should be generalized, non-reciprocal and non-discriminatory;

16. *Recognizes* the importance for developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition of considering reducing trade barriers among themselves;

17. *Notes* the health and environment-related measures that have an impact on exports and stresses that the adoption or enforcement of any measures necessary

¹³ See A/CONF.191/11 and A/CONF.191/12.

¹⁴ Basic Instruments and Selected Documents of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) (L 4903, BISD 265/203).

to protect human, animal or plant life or health should not be applied in a manner that would constitute arbitrary or unjustified discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade, and recognizes the importance of capacity-building support for developing countries so as to enable them to put in place the appropriate measures necessary for meeting consistent standards of the World Trade Organization;

18. *Encourages* support for measures to simplify and make more transparent domestic regulations and procedures that affect trade so as to assist exporters, particularly those from developing countries;

19. *Stresses* the importance of increased participation of developing countries in the work of relevant international standards-setting organizations and of increased technical assistance and capacity-building in this regard;

20. *Expresses satisfaction* with the renewed and increased cooperation between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization as well as with the joint efforts to provide trade-related technical assistance, and calls for a further strengthening of this cooperation, and stresses in this respect the importance of continuing and enhancing the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Programme of Capacity-Building and Technical Cooperation for Developing Countries, Especially the Least Developed Countries and Economies in Transition, in support of their participation in the World Trade Organization Doha Work Programme;

21. *Invites*, in this regard, donors and other countries in a position to do so to continue to provide the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development with the necessary resources to deliver effective and demand-driven assistance to developing countries, especially least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, and to small and vulnerable economies, as well as to continue and enhance their contributions to the trust funds of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries and the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme and to the activities of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO;

22. *Invites* donors and other countries in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund and further invites the World Trade Organization to cooperate closely with other organizations having the necessary expertise and comparative advantage in delivering technical assistance;

23. *Invites* bilateral and multilateral financial and development institutions, in cooperation with interested Governments and their financial institutions, to expand and coordinate their efforts, with increased resources, to further support national efforts to benefit from trade opportunities and effectively integrate into the multilateral trading system;

24. *Reaffirms* the commitment on the part of developed and developing countries to mainstream appropriate trade policies in their respective development policies and programmes;

25. *Calls upon* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, to contribute to the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit

on Sustainable Development,¹⁵ and welcomes the cooperation on trade, environment and development, inter alia, in the field of technical assistance to developing countries, between the secretariats of the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant international developmental or environmental organizations;

26. *Endorses* the outcome of the mid-term review of the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,¹⁶ which was aimed at reviewing the implementation of the commitments and of the work programme agreed upon at the tenth session of the Conference, and reiterates its profound gratitude to the Government and people of Thailand for hosting the mid-term review;

27. *Welcomes* the generous offer by the Government of Brazil to host the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in 2004, and takes note of the invitation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference to prepare the draft provisional agenda and the timetable for the Conference for consideration by the Trade and Development Board in the first quarter of 2003;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, on the implementation of the present resolution and on developments in the multilateral trading system, under the sub-item entitled "International trade and development".

¹⁵ *Report of the World Conference on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. 1, resolution 2, annex.

¹⁶ See A/57/15 (Part II).

**General Assembly**

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 84 (d)
Macroeconomic policy questions:
external debt crisis and development

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee,
Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal
consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.6**

**Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution
to the external debt problem of developing countries**

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/164 of 16 December 1996, 52/185 of 18 December 1997, 53/175 of 15 December 1998, 54/202 of 22 December 1999, 55/184 of 20 December 2000 and 56/184 of 21 December 2001 on enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on external debt crisis and development,¹

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,²

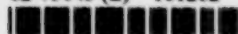
Reaffirming the Monterrey Consensus,³ which recognizes sustainable debt financing as an important element for mobilizing resources for public and private investment,

Noting with great concern the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of the heavily indebted poor developing countries as constituting an element that adversely affects their sustainable development efforts, and noting in this regard that

¹ A/57/253.

² Resolution 55/2, annex.

³ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.



the total debt stock of the developing countries rose from \$1,458 billion in 1990 to \$2,442 billion in 2001.⁴

Noting with concern that some highly indebted, middle-income developing countries are facing serious difficulties in meeting their external debt-servicing obligations,

Welcoming the progress made on the heavily indebted poor countries initiative designed to provide deeper, broader and faster relief, while recognizing that significant challenges remain to ensure that countries achieve a lasting exit from unsustainable debt,

Welcoming also the actions taken by creditor countries within the framework of the Paris Club and by some creditor countries through the cancellation of bilateral debts, and urging all creditor countries to participate in efforts to remedy the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries,

1. *Reaffirms* the determination, as expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,² to deal comprehensively and effectively with the debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries, through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term;

2. *Recognizes* that creditors and debtors must share the responsibility for preventing and resolving unsustainable debt situations and that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with attaining sustainable growth and development, including poverty reduction and the achievement of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, and in this regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards these objectives;

3. *Stresses* that sustainable debt financing is an important element for mobilizing resources for public and private investment, and that national comprehensive strategies to monitor and manage the external liabilities embedded in the domestic preconditions for debt sustainability, including sound macroeconomic policies and public resource management, are a key element in reducing national vulnerabilities;

4. *Reiterates* the call for industrialized countries, as expressed in the Millennium Declaration, to implement the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries without further delay and to agree to cancel all official bilateral debts of those countries in return for their making demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction, including through poverty reduction strategy papers, where appropriate, and in this regard welcomes the decision of those countries that have already done so, underlining that debt relief complementary to the framework be treated as additional;

5. *Calls upon* the heavily indebted poor countries to take, as soon as possible, the policy measures necessary to become eligible for the enhanced heavily indebted poor countries initiative and to reach the decision point;

6. *Stresses* the need to pursue, where appropriate, debt relief measures vigorously and expeditiously, by all creditors, including within the Paris and London

⁴ See A/57/253, table.

Clubs and other relevant forums, in order to contribute to debt sustainability and facilitate sustainable development;

7. *Welcomes* initiatives that have been undertaken to reduce outstanding indebtedness;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions as well as the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt problem of developing countries, and in this regard stresses the need to:

(a) Implement speedily, effectively and fully the enhanced heavily indebted poor countries initiative, which should be fully financed through additional resources, while stressing the need for fair, equitable and transparent burden-sharing among the international public creditor community and other donor countries, taking into consideration, as appropriate, measures to address any fundamental changes in the economic circumstances of those developing countries with unsustainable debt burden caused by natural catastrophes, severe terms-of-trade shocks or affected by conflict, taking into account initiatives that have been undertaken to reduce outstanding indebtedness;

(b) Bring about a sustained commitment by the heavily indebted poor countries to improvements in domestic policies and economic management, support capacity-building for the management of financial asset and liabilities, ensure full participation and delivery of relief by all affected creditors, ensure adequate and sufficiently concessional financing by international financing institutions and the donor community, and consider an early review of the difficult issues of debt relief and creditor litigation among heavily indebted poor countries;

(c) Bring international debtors and creditors together in relevant international forums to restructure unsustainable debt in a timely and efficient manner, taking into account the need to involve the private sector in the resolution of crises due to indebtedness, where appropriate;

(d) Acknowledge the problems of the debt sustainability of some non-HIPC low-income countries, in particular those facing exceptional circumstances;

(e) Reduce unsustainable debt burden of developing countries through such actions as debt relief and, as appropriate, debt cancellation and other innovative mechanisms geared to comprehensively address the debt problems of developing countries, in particular the poorest and most heavily indebted ones;

(f) Encourage exploring innovative mechanisms to comprehensively address the debt problems of developing countries, including middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition. Such mechanisms may include debt-for-sustainable-development swaps or multi-creditor debt swap arrangements, as appropriate;

(g) Establish effective debt-tracking mechanisms in developing countries and strengthen technical assistance for external debt management and debt tracking, including through enhanced cooperation/coordination between organizations providing assistance in this regard;

(h) Take steps to ensure that resources provided for debt relief do not detract from official development assistance resources intended to be available for developing countries and that the debt relief arrangements seek to avoid imposing any unfair burden on other developing countries;

(i) Welcome consideration by all relevant stakeholders of an international debt-work-out mechanism, in the appropriate forums, the adoption of which should not preclude emergency financing in times of crisis, to promote fair burden-sharing and minimize moral hazard, which will engage debtors and creditors to come together to restructure unsustainable debts in a timely and efficient manner;

(j) Establish a set of clear principles for the management and resolution of financial crisis that provide for fair burden-sharing between public and private sectors and between debtors, creditors and investors, while recognizing that a flexible mix of instruments is needed to respond appropriately to countries' different economic circumstances and capacities;

9. *Stresses* the importance of continued flexibility with regard to the eligibility criteria for the enhanced heavily indebted poor countries initiative, in particular for countries in post-conflict situations, and the need to keep the computational procedures and assumptions underlying debt sustainability analysis under review;

10. *Emphasizes* the need to help bring about initial recovery in heavily indebted poor post-conflict countries, in coordination with the international financial institutions, to help clear, as appropriate, these countries' arrears vis-à-vis international financial institutions;

11. *Reaffirms* that reviews of debt sustainability should also bear in mind the impact of debt relief on progress towards the achievement of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration and the fact that debt sustainability analysis at the completion point needs to take into account any worsening global growth prospects and declining terms of trade;

12. *Notes* that it is important for the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to continue their efforts to strengthen the transparency and integrity of debt sustainability analysis and to consider any fundamental changes in countries' debt sustainability caused by natural catastrophes, severe terms-of-trade shocks or conflict when making policy recommendations, including for debt relief, as appropriate;

13. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the institutional capacity of developing countries in debt management, calls upon the international community to support the efforts made towards this end, and in this regard, stresses the importance of such initiatives as the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System,⁵ the

⁵ The Debt Management and Financial Analysis System is a computerized system developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in developing appropriate administrative, institutional and legal structures for effective foreign and domestic public debt management; by December 2002, the system had been installed in the debt offices of 60 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

International Monetary Fund and World Bank guidelines for public debt management,⁶ and the debt-management capacity-building programme;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, including, inter alia, those resulting from global financial instability;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt crisis and development".

⁶ See: <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/nb/2002/nb02116.htm>.



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Fifty-seventh session

Second Committee

Agenda items 84 (b) and 112

Macroeconomic policy questions: commodities

Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Commodities

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.73

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedures of the General Assembly

I. Request contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 11 of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.73, the General Assembly would call upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), within existing budgetary resources, supplemented by voluntary contributions, as appropriate, to designate independent eminent persons to examine and report on commodity issues, including the volatility in commodity prices and declining terms of trade and the impact these have on the development efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries, for consideration by the executive session of the Trade and Development Board and subsequently by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

II. Relationship of the proposed request to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and the programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003

2. The activities to be carried out would relate to programme 9, Trade and development, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and section 11A, Trade and development, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.



III. Activities by which the proposed request would be carried out

3. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD would designate nine independent eminent persons, on a broad geographical basis, to examine and report on commodity issues, including the volatility in commodity prices and declining terms of trade and the impact these have on the development efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries, for consideration by the executive session of the Trade and Development Board and subsequently by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session. The nine eminent persons would attend the executive session of the Board in order to present their findings and assist it during its consideration of the report.

4. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.73, the programme of work under section 11A, Trade and development, subprogramme 3, International trade, would be modified as follows:

At the end of paragraph 11A.35 (iii) b. add the words "Report by eminent persons on commodity issues, including the volatility in commodity prices and declining terms of trade and the impact these have on the development efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries (1)".

IV. Additional requirements at full costs

5. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.73, the additional resources estimated at full costs for 2003 would be as follows:

<i>Additional requirements</i>	<i>United States dollars</i>
Section 11A, Trade and development	\$
Consultants/experts	
Nine work-months for the eminent persons to prepare a report on commodity issues, as described in operative paragraph 11 of the draft resolution (\$63,000)	95 600
Travel costs of the nine eminent persons for attendance at the executive session of the Trade and Development Board (\$32,600)	
General temporary assistance	
Two work-months of secretarial assistance to provide support in the organizational and preparatory work (\$6,000)	16 000
Three work-months of a statistical assistant to undertake research and gathering of data particularly in areas such as quantifying impacts and significance of different factors causing declining terms of trade and price instability as well as on the price transmission mechanisms in current market structures (\$10,000)	

*Additional requirements**United States dollars***Travel of staff**

Consultations with international organizations and research institutions to discuss the impacts of terms of trade movement and commodity prices on selected developing countries' development performance and to discuss the data, methodology and findings of research to be conducted. 10 000

Total section 11A**121 600****V. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2002-2003**

6. No provisions have been made under the regular budget for the biennium 2002-2003 for the activity envisaged under operative paragraph 11 of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.73. Further, no activities were identified to be postponed or curtailed that would enable to release resources in order to accommodate the request contained in the above-mentioned paragraph. In addition, there are currently no extrabudgetary resources available to accommodate the additional activities.

7. As regards the phrase "within existing resources, supplemented by voluntary contributions" in paragraph 11 of the draft resolution, the attention of the Second Committee is drawn to the provision of General Assembly resolution 45/248, part B, section VI, in which the General Assembly:

(a) Reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administration and budgetary matters;

(b) Also reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(c) Expressed its concern at the tendency of its substantive committees and other intergovernmental bodies to involve themselves in administrative and budgetary matters;

(d) Invited the Secretary-General to provide all intergovernmental bodies with the required information regarding procedures for administrative and budgetary matters.

VI. Summary

8. **The implementation of the request contained in operative paragraph 11 of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.73 would entail additional resources in the amount of \$121,600. The Secretariat shall attempt to identify any available regular budget resources under section 11 which might finance those activities in 2003, and will seek extrabudgetary contributions in order to enable implementation of the above-mentioned request.**



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**Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee**

Agenda items 87 (f) and 112

**Environment and sustainable development: further
implementation of the Programme of Action for the
Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.20

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedures of the General Assembly

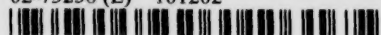
I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of paragraphs 5, 7, 9, and 12 of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.20, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide to convene an international meeting in 2004, including a summit segment, to comprehensively review the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, as called for in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and would welcome the offer by the Government of Mauritius to host the meeting;

(b) Further decide to convene regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States in the African, Caribbean and Pacific regions, as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, to undertake the review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional and regional levels and to identify and develop small island developing States-specific inputs into the review, as referred to in subparagraph (a) above;

(c) Decide that the Commission on Sustainable Development shall act as the preparatory committee for the international meeting referred to in subparagraph (a)



above, and shall undertake the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action and consider and finalize the plan for its implementation;

(d) Call for the immediate strengthening of the Small Island Developing States Unit to assist with the preparation of the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action.

II. Activities by which the proposed requests would be carried out

2. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs would assume primary responsibility for carrying out the activities required to implement the draft resolution.

3. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the programme of work described under subprogramme 4, Sustainable development, of section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 would be modified as follows:

Under paragraph 9.69, add the words "(vii) Three regional and one interregional meetings of small island developing States to undertake the review of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Small Island Developing States".

4. On the basis of past experience in holding other United Nations conferences and meetings, it is assumed that the international meeting would be convened for a period of seven days, with four meetings per day or a total of 28 meetings. Interpretation would be provided in the six official languages of the General Assembly. Documentation to be processed in the six languages would be estimated at 160 pages of pre-session, 80 pages of in-session and 32 pages of post-session documents. In accordance with the headquarters principle embodied in General Assembly resolution 40/243, the event itself should be held in New York. Under the terms of paragraph 5 of that resolution, however, United Nations bodies may hold meetings away from their established headquarters on the understanding that any additional cost, such as for travel of staff, freight, communications and planning missions, will be borne by the host Government.

5. The timing, venues and modalities of the regional preparatory meetings in the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific regions, as well as of the interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, would be determined in consultation with interested Member States.

6. Assuming that the requirements for any meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the international meeting, which might need to be convened in 2003, would be met from the mandated entitlements of the Commission in 2003, no additional resources would be required for 2003.

7. The conference-servicing requirements related to the preparatory process and for the international meeting in 2004 would be requested in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005. On the basis of past experience in holding other United Nations conferences and meetings, it is assumed that the international meeting would be convened for a period of seven days, with

four meetings per day or a total of 28 meetings. Interpretation will be provided in the six official languages of the General Assembly. Documentation anticipated to be processed in the six languages is estimated at 160 pages of pre-session, 80 pages of in-session and 32 pages of post-session documents. In accordance with the headquarters principle embodied in General Assembly resolution 40/243, the event itself should be held in New York. Under the terms of paragraph 5 of that resolution, however, United Nations bodies may hold meetings away from their established headquarters on the understanding that any additional cost, such as for travel of staff, freight, communications and planning missions, will be borne by the host Government.

8. In order to ensure adequate preparation for the regional and interregional meetings, it is considered that it would be necessary to secure, in 2003, the services of consultants/experts to provide specialized expertise that is not available in the Secretariat to assist in the preparation of analytical reports, reviews and studies on a range of issues critical to the sustainable development of small island developing States.

III. Additional requirements at full costs

9. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.20, the additional resources estimated at full costs for 2003 would be as follows:

<i>United States dollars</i>	
Section 9, Economic and social affairs	
Twenty work months of consultancy to provide specialized expertise that is not available in the Secretariat to assist in the preparation of analytical reports, technical papers, reviews and studies on sustainable development of small island developing States related to climate change, sustainable tourism, vulnerability issues, trade, telecommunications, transportation and waste management matters.	100 000
Three regional and one interregional expert group meetings to assist in the review of issues related to the implementation of the Programme of Action and other issues of importance to small island developing States. For the three regional meetings for each of the main groups of small island developing States, the United Nations would provide for 12 experts per meeting each for the Pacific and Caribbean regions, 4 experts for the Africa region and 17 experts for the interregional meeting.	167 000
Total section 9	267 000

10. It is the intention of the Secretary-General to make provision for the international meeting and for the meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development, acting as preparatory committee, in the context of his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005. The conference-servicing

requirements, at full cost, for the international meeting and the meetings of the Commission in 2004 are currently estimated at \$573,300 and \$513,600, respectively.

IV. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2002-2003

11. It is recalled that the appropriations for the 2002-2003 biennium contain a provision for financing the participation of members of the Commission on Sustainable Development to attend one regular session and two intersessional sessions of the Commission per year. It is the understanding of the Secretariat that the General Assembly would be requesting the Economic and Social Council to ensure that the Commission holds one organizational session in January 2003 and one session in April/May 2003. On the assumption that the Council would take a decision as requested by the General Assembly, the Commission would not hold the two intersessional sessions which were originally scheduled to be held in 2003. The resources which would be released by the cancellation of those two intersessional sessions of the Commission are estimated at \$267,000. It is proposed to use those resources to finance the preparatory activities to be carried out.

V. Recommendation

12. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.20, it is proposed that the estimated requirements of \$267,000 for the preparatory process in 2003 be met through the use of resources appropriated for the Commission on Sustainable Development under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

**General Assembly**

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Fifty-seventh session**Second Committee**

Agenda item 93

**High-level international intergovernmental
consideration of financing for development**

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Marco Antonio Suazo (Honduras), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.36

**High-level international intergovernmental consideration
of financing for development**

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,¹ which was adopted on 22 March 2002,

Welcoming the initiatives and efforts of relevant actors in the financing for development process from the public and private sectors, as well as from civil society, to stay fully engaged, nationally, regionally and internationally, to ensure proper follow-up to the implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the Conference, and to continue to build bridges between development, finance and trade organizations and initiatives, within the framework of the holistic agenda of the Conference,

Recognizing the link between financing for development and attaining internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,² in measuring development progress and in helping to guide development priorities, as well as sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should support sustainable development, sustained economic growth and poverty eradication and allow for the mobilization, in a coherent manner, of all sources of financing for development,

¹ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7).

² Resolution 55/2.



including the mobilization of domestic resources, international flows, trade, official development assistance and external debt relief.

Taking note of the communiqués of the Development Committee of the World Bank dated April and September 2002, as well as the communiqué of the International Monetary and Financial Committee dated 28 September 2002,

1. *Underscores its firm commitment* to the full and effective implementation of the Monterrey Consensus¹ and, in that regard, to promoting a holistic approach to the interconnected national, international and systemic challenges of financing for development, in active partnership with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and other relevant institutional stakeholders, civil society and the private sector, including through collective and coherent action in every area of the Consensus;

2. *Reiterates* that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country and at the international level. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation. Transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and the commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system are equally essential;

3. *Expresses concern* about the difficulties of the present world economic situation and stresses the importance of confronting it through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions; underlines the importance of continued efforts to improve global economic governance and strengthen the United Nations leadership role in promoting development;

4. *Calls* for the integrated consideration of trade, finance, investment, technology transfer and development issues and, to this end, re-emphasizes the urgency of coherent action by the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as appropriate, along with the action of Governments, to promote equitable and broad sharing in the benefits of globalization, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

5. *Recognizes* that an enabling domestic environment is vital for mobilizing domestic resources, increasing productivity, reducing capital flight, encouraging the private sector and attracting and making effective use of international investment and assistance. Efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community;

6. *Encourages* all Governments to combat corruption, bribery, money-laundering, the transfer of the illicitly acquired funds and assets and to work for the return of such funds and assets to the countries of origin, and welcomes actions taken in this regard at national and international levels;

7. *Stresses* the need for structural reforms to strengthen corporate governance, accounting and auditing, in particular when inadequate policies can have systemic consequences;

8. *Stresses* the importance of strong domestic institutions to promote business activities and financial stability for the achievement of growth and

development, inter alia, through sound macroeconomic policies and policies aimed at strengthening the regulatory systems of the corporate, financial and banking sectors;

9. *Considers* that, in the context of the current world economic situation, the multilateral trading system should be reinforced by achieving a balanced outcome of the Doha negotiations, which responds to the interests of all the members of the World Trade Organization, in particular the developing countries, and by giving concrete shape to the development-related provisions of the work programme of the World Trade Organization, and by working to ensure that the concerns of developing countries, in particular in terms of implementation issues and special and differential treatment, are properly and effectively addressed in accordance with the Doha Ministerial Declaration,³ as amended by action of the General Council of the World Trade Organization;

10. *Recognizes* that trade rules and issues in the post-Doha framework should have a clear development content;

11. *Expresses concern* about the adoption of a number of unilateral actions which are not consistent with World Trade Organization rules, that harm the exports of all countries, in particular those of developing countries, and have a considerable bearing on the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations and on the achievement and further enhancement of the development dimension of the trade negotiations;

12. *Welcomes* the commitments announced at the International Conference on Financing for Development to increase the levels and effectiveness of official development assistance, looks forward to the early availability of the resources committed in keeping with the announced time frames, urges developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help achieve development goals and targets;

13. *Reaffirms* the determination, as expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,² to deal comprehensively and effectively with the debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries, through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term;

14. *Reaffirms also* that reviews of debt sustainability should also bear in mind the impact of debt relief on progress made towards the achievement of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration and that debt sustainability analysis at the completion point needs to take into account any worsening global growth prospects and declining terms of trade; in addition, efforts to strengthen the transparency and integrity of debt sustainability analysis should continue;

15. *Stresses*, in the consideration of any new debt resolution mechanism, the importance of a broad discussion in the appropriate forums, with the participation of all interested actors, welcomes the steps taken by the international financial

³ See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

institutions to take into account social aspects and the borrowing costs for developing countries, encourages them to continue their efforts in that regard and reiterates that the adoption of such a mechanism should not preclude emergency financing in times of crisis;

16. *Stresses* the special importance of creating an enabling international economic environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote equitable economic development in a world economy that benefits all people and, in this context, invites developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, when formulating their macroeconomic policies, to take into account their effects in terms of the external economic environment favourable to growth and development;

17. *Notes* the impact of financial crisis or risk of contagion in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, regardless of their size, and in this regard underlines the need to ensure that the international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, have a suitable array of financial facilities and resources to respond in a timely and appropriate way, in accordance with their policies;

18. *Takes note* of the communiqué of the Development Committee dated 28 September 2002, in particular paragraph 10, on the need to identify pragmatic and innovative ways further to enhance the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international decision-making and norm-setting, and encourages all relevant international financial institutions to take concrete measures towards this end;

19. *Invites* the International Monetary Fund to continue its work on quotas and welcomes the continuing consideration by the Fund of its quota review and the reiteration by the International Monetary and Financial Committee that the International Monetary Fund should have adequate resources to fulfil its financial responsibilities and that quotas should reflect developments in the international economy;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariats of relevant institutional stakeholders, fully utilizing the mechanisms of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, with the effective support of the United Nations Secretariat, and building on the successful experience in the preparations for the International Conference on Financing for Development, to prepare a comprehensive report on the implementation and follow-up to commitments and agreements made at the Conference, focusing on progress achieved in all areas covered by the Monterrey Consensus;

21. *Decides* that the preparatory work and reports of the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as well as the preparatory process of the General Assembly high-level dialogue, should serve as inputs in the preparation of the comprehensive report, which would be presented on an annual basis to the General Assembly, under the agenda item on follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, as well as to the biennial high-level dialogue of the General Assembly;

22. *Stresses* the importance of making progress on all fronts and enhancing the coherence and synergies of all development efforts and, in the spirit of the strategic partnership launched at Monterrey, requests the President of the General Assembly to bring the present resolution to the attention of the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank and the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund, before the spring meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee and the Development Committee, as well as to the World Trade Organization General Council, as an input to the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to be held in April 2003 and the subsequent high-level dialogue of the General Assembly on financing for development to be held in the second half of 2003.



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Agenda item 92

**Integrated and coordinated implementation
of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major
United Nations conferences and summits in
the economic and social fields**

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Marco Antonio Suazo (Honduras), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.33

World Food Summit: five years later

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/171 of 16 December 1996, in which it welcomed the outcome of the World Food Summit,¹ held in Rome, Italy, from 13 to 17 November 1996,

Recalling also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Recalling further its resolutions 55/162 of 14 December 2000 and 56/95 of 14 December 2001 on the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the World Food Summit: five years later, which was organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 10 to 13 June 2002;

2. *Urges* Member States to implement in a coordinated manner and in close cooperation with relevant bodies of the United Nations system, as well as international and regional financial institutions, the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later — International Alliance against Hunger;²

3. *Requests* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996*, Part one (WFS 96/REP), appendix.

² *Ibid.*, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, Part one, appendix. See also A/57/499, annex.

Food Programme and the International Fund For Agricultural Development, as well as the international and regional financial institutions, to pursue, at the global, regional and country levels, the outcome of the World Food Summit: five years later in the context of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in particular the goals of halving the levels of hunger and absolute poverty by 2015, and in the context of relevant follow-up to the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development.



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Agenda item 86 (d)

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Marco Antonio Suazo (Honduras), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L. 15

High-Level Dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997, 53/181 of 15 December 1998, 54/213 of 22 December 1999, 55/193 of 20 December 2000 and 56/190 of 21 December 2001,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership",¹

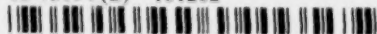
Recalling its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,² which was adopted on 22 March 2002,

Recalling further the commitment to strengthen and make fuller use of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for the purposes of conference follow-up and coordination,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence and partnership in promoting international economic cooperation

¹ A/57/388.

² *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.



for development, and that the United Nations system should reinforce its activities in order to facilitate such a dialogue,

Stressing the importance of staying fully engaged, nationally, regionally and internationally, to ensure proper follow-up to the implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development, and to continue to build bridges between development, finance and trade organizations and initiatives, within the framework of the holistic agenda of the Conference,

Stressing further the importance of substantively connecting, in ascending order, the spring meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, which will address the issue of coherence, coordination and cooperation, and the reconstituted High-Level Dialogue in the General Assembly, which will serve as the focal point for the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and will include a policy dialogue on the implementation of the results of the Conference, including the theme of coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development,

Recognizing the link between financing for development and attaining internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,³ in respect of measuring development progress and helping to guide development priorities, as well as achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development, bearing in mind the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

1. *Stresses* that the High-Level Dialogue, as the intergovernmental focal point for the general follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and related issues, should contribute to promoting coherence among policies of development, finance, monetary and trading organizations within the framework of the holistic agenda of the Conference with respect to eradicating poverty and achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development and an equitable global economic system;

2. *Decides* to reconstitute the current High-Level Dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership as the High-Level Dialogue on financing for development so that it may become the intergovernmental focal point for the general follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and related issues;

3. *Decides* to hold the High-Level Dialogue biennially at ministerial level;

4. *Agrees* to hold the High-Level Dialogue at the end of October 2003 on a specific date to be determined by the President of the General Assembly after consultations with relevant stakeholders, so as to facilitate ministerial participation and the participation of heads of international financial and trade institutions and other relevant organizations;

5. *Decides* that the overall theme of the High-Level Dialogue will be "The Monterrey Consensus: status of implementation and tasks ahead";

³ See resolution 55/2.

6. *Decides* that the duration of the High-Level Dialogue will be two days and that it will consist of an innovative series of plenary and informal meetings to constitute a policy dialogue and interactive round tables with the participation of the relevant stakeholders. The dialogue should be well prepared including through appropriate intergovernmental consultations. The two days will consist of:

(a) The first day, devoted to informal meetings for eight interactive round tables, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, following the format applied for the Monterrey Conference round tables as applicable, divided into two sessions, each comprising four round tables of 35 participants with the two following themes:

- One for consideration of the regional dimensions of the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development, with participation of the heads of regional commissions and regional development banks, and other stakeholders;
- The other to explore the link between the progress in the implementation of the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and the promotion of sustainable development, sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty with a view to achieving an equitable global economic system;

(b) The second day, consisting of formal and informal meetings constituting a policy dialogue with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, on the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the theme of coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development, which will also consider the collaborative tasks ahead. The Secretary-General and the heads of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme as the Chairman of the United Nations Development Group, as well as one representative of the regional development banks, will be invited to make introductory statements. An interactive dialogue will follow during an informal meeting, on the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied, allowing participation at ministerial level. The heads of regional and international intergovernmental organs that participated in the Monterrey Conference will be able to intervene. One representative from civil society and one representative from the business sector, selected by accredited participants among themselves, will also be able to intervene;

7. *Also decides* to hold, prior to the High-Level Dialogue, one day of informal hearings with civil society and the business sector accredited to the High-Level Dialogue, and requests the Secretariat to submit a summary of these hearings as an input to the High-Level Dialogue discussions;

8. *Decides* that a resolution on the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development will be adopted by the General Assembly based, inter alia, on the outcome of the High-Level Dialogue and its preparatory process and, in this regard, as inputs to the resolution, requests the

President of the General Assembly to issue a summary of the policy dialogue and the co-Chairpersons of individual round tables to issue summaries of each round-table discussion;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, prior to the High-Level Dialogue, an issues paper containing an annotated agenda and programme of work to assist in organizing the Dialogue;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available at the High-Level Dialogue relevant inputs related to financing for development from all stakeholders, including the documents of the Economic and Social Council covering its annual special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization and relevant work at its substantive session, the annual report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up efforts to the commitments of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

11. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders at all levels to support adequate preparations for the High-Level Dialogue on financing for development;

12. *Invites* the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization as well as relevant organizations of the United Nations system to participate in the High-Level Dialogue, including in the preparatory phase, and invites the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization and the heads of other relevant regional and international intergovernmental organs to participate actively in the Dialogue;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with all relevant entities of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Development Programme, and in consultation with the regional development banks, other relevant regional entities, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to support regional consultations in preparations of the High-Level Dialogue;

14. *Invites* Governments to enhance coordination among ministries of Foreign Affairs, Finance, Development Cooperation and Trade, as well as central banks and all other national stakeholders, for the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and related issues and the follow-up thereto including preparations for the High-Level Dialogue;

15. *Encourages* greater participation of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities at the interactive round tables and informal meetings of the plenary of the High-Level Dialogue in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and decides that:

- (a) Accreditation will be open to:
 - (i) All non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;
 - (ii) All non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that were accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development;

(b) Interested non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or were not accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development shall apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the accreditation procedure established during the International Conference on Financing for Development;⁴

(c) The above arrangements concerning participation of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities in the High-Level Dialogue will in no way create a precedent for other meetings of the General Assembly;

16. *Notes* that the successfully reconstituted High-Level Dialogue may provide useful experiences for the integrated and coordinated follow-up to conferences;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under an item entitled "Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development", a sub-item entitled "High-Level Dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development";

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it before the end of its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

⁴ See resolutions 54/279 and 55/245 B.



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Agenda item 87 (a)

**Environment and sustainable development:
implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme
for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21**

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára
(Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution
A/C.2/57/L.38**

World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000 and 56/226 of 24 December 2001,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ Agenda 21² and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³

Having considered the report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,⁴ held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

Reaffirming in this regard the commitment to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992,

Welcoming the adoption by the Summit of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁵ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation⁶ on 4 September 2002,

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution I, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (A/CONF.199/20).

⁵ *Ibid.*, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁶ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.



Expressing its satisfaction that the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its preparatory committee provided for the active participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, of observers and various intergovernmental organizations, including the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, at the highest level as well as the major groups representing all the regions of the world,

Reaffirming the need to ensure a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development,

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and announced at the Summit,

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Governments and the peoples of Indonesia and South Africa for hosting, respectively, the fourth preparatory committee meeting and the Summit, for the excellent arrangements, the hospitality extended to participants and for the facilities, staff and services placed at their disposal,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;⁴
2. *Endorses* the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁵ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;⁶
3. *Decides* to adopt sustainable development as a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and to give overall political direction to the implementation of Agenda 21 and its review;
4. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, United Nations funds, programmes and regional economic commissions, specialized agencies, international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely actions to ensure the effective follow-up and implementation of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;
5. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and calls for further discussion of this matter within the Commission on Sustainable Development;
6. *Calls* for the implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the

provisions of the means of implementation as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

7. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to ensure that the Commission on Sustainable Development holds an organizational meeting of its next session in January 2003 and its session in April/May 2003;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report containing proposals on the modalities of the future work of the Commission, taking into account the decisions contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

9. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to implement the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation relevant to its mandate and, in particular, to promote the implementation of Agenda 21 by strengthening system-wide coordination;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into full account the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in particular the decisions made on the institutional framework for sustainable development as contained in chapter XI of the Plan of Implementation, in the ongoing process of reform of the United Nations and in his contribution to the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General at that session to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.



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Agenda item 94

Globalization and interdependence

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee,
Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal consultations
held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.29**

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000 and 56/209 of 21 December 2001 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,¹

Recalling also its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,² the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development³ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,⁴ as well as the outcomes of the other major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recognizing the challenges and opportunities of globalization and interdependence,

Expressing concern about the marginalization of a large number of developing countries from the benefits of globalization, the additional vulnerability of those

¹ Resolution 55/2, annex.

² *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

³ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁴ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.



developing countries that are integrating into the world economy and the general accentuation of the income and technological gap between developed and developing countries, as well as within countries,

Recognizing that globalization and interdependence are opening new opportunities through trade, investment and capital flows and advances in technology, including information technology, for the growth of the world economy, development and the improvement of living standards around the world, and recognizing also that some countries have made progress in successfully adapting to the changes and have benefited from globalization,

Also recognizing the importance of appropriate policy responses at the national level by all countries to the challenges of globalization, in particular by pursuing sound macroeconomic and social policies, noting the need for support from the international community for the efforts of the least developed countries, in particular to improve their institutional and management capacities, and recognizing further that all countries should pursue policies conducive to economic growth and to promoting a favourable global economic environment,

Stressing that such national macroeconomic and social policies can yield better results with international support and with an enabling international economic environment,

Emphasizing the need to address those imbalances and asymmetries in international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have a negative impact on development prospects for developing countries with a view to minimizing those impacts,

Noting with serious concern that a large number of developing countries have not yet been able to reap the full benefits of the existing multilateral trading system, and underlining the importance of promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy so as to enable them to take the fullest possible advantage of the trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization,

Stressing that the process of reform for a strengthened and stable international financial architecture should be based on broad participation in a genuine multilateral approach, involving all members of the international community, to ensure that the diverse needs and interests of all countries are adequately represented,

Underlining the urgent need to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence for all developing countries, including landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and in particular African countries and the least developed countries,

Reiterating that the United Nations, as a universal forum, is in a unique position to achieve international cooperation by addressing the challenges of promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence, in particular by promoting a more equitable sharing of the benefits of globalization,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁵

⁵ A/57/287.

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence;

3. *Recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts at all levels, including policies and measures at the national and global levels to create a shared future based upon a common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and thus have a positive impact on development;

4. *Reaffirms* the need to improve mutual supportiveness by fulfilling the commitments made, as agreed, at all United Nations conferences and summits, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹ in order to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development in the context of globalization and interdependence;

5. *Underlines* that in order to make globalization work for all it is essential to invest in basic economic and social infrastructure, social services and social protection, including education, health, nutrition, shelter and social security programmes, which take special care of children and older persons and are gender-sensitive and fully inclusive of the rural sector and all disadvantaged communities, and are vital for enabling people, especially people living in poverty, to better adapt to and benefit from changing economic conditions and opportunities;

6. *Also underlines* the critical need to reinforce national efforts in capacity-building in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in such areas as institutional infrastructure, human resource development, public finance, mortgage finance, financial regulation and supervision, basic education, public administration, social and gender budget policies, early warning and crisis prevention, and debt management;

7. *Stresses* the need for the United Nations system to continue to address the social dimension of globalization, and in this regard encourages the International Labour Organization's work on the social dimension of globalization;

8. *Recognizes* the right of member countries to choose independently their own paths to development and national poverty reduction strategies;

9. *Reiterates* that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country and at the international level. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation. Transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and the commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system are equally essential;

10. *Notes* that important international efforts are under way to reform the international financial architecture; emphasizes that those efforts need to be sustained with greater transparency and the effective participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and that one major objective of the reform is to enhance financing for development and poverty eradication; underscores furthermore the commitment set forth in paragraph 53 of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development² to sound

domestic financial sectors, which make a vital contribution to national development efforts, as an important component of an international financial architecture that is supportive of development;

11. *Takes note* of the communiqué of the Development Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development dated 28 September 2002, in particular paragraph 10 on the need to identify pragmatic and innovative ways to further enhance participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international decision-making and norm-setting, and encouraged all relevant international financial institutions to take concrete measures to that end;

12. *Welcomes* the commitment by all countries to promote national and global economic systems based on the principles of justice, equity, democracy, participation, transparency, accountability and inclusion, as contained in the Monterrey Consensus;

13. *Calls for* the integrated consideration of trade, finance, investment, technology transfer and developmental issues, and to that end re-emphasizes the urgency of coherent action by the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as appropriate, along with the action of Governments, to promote equitable and broad sharing in the benefits of globalization, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

14. *Expresses concern* about the adoption of a number of unilateral actions which are not consistent with World Trade Organization rules, harm the export of all countries, in particular that of developing countries, and have a considerable bearing on the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations and on the achievement and further enhancement of the development dimension of the trade negotiations;

15. *Stresses* the special importance of creating an enabling international economic environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote equitable economic development in a world economy that benefits all people, and in that context invites developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, when formulating their macroeconomic policies, to take into account their effects in terms of the external economic environment favourable to growth and development;

16. *Stresses* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the full development and effective implementation of intergovernmental agreements and measures, international initiatives and public-private partnerships, and appropriate national regulations, and to support continuous improvement in corporate practices in all countries;

17. *Stresses also* the role of the United Nations in addressing the digital divide in the context of globalization and the development process of developing countries and in promoting coherence and synergies between various regional and international initiatives, including the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force and the Digital Opportunities Task Force;

18. *Urges* developed countries to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in narrowing the digital divide, creating digital opportunities and harnessing the potential of information and communication

technologies for development, through technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and the provision of financial and technical support, and in that context to support the World Summit on the Information Society;

19. *Encourages* developing countries to continue to pursue appropriate development policies to promote economic development and poverty eradication, and in that regard invites the international community to pursue strategies that support those policies through continued efforts to address the problems of market access, persistent external debt, transfer of resources, financial vulnerability and declining terms of trade;

20. *Strongly urges* the international community to take all necessary and appropriate measures, including support for structural and macroeconomic reform, foreign direct investment, enhanced official development assistance, the search for a durable solution to the external debt problem, market access, capacity-building and the dissemination of knowledge and technology, in order to achieve sustainable development and promote the participation in the global economy of all African countries, as well as the least developed countries, the landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;

21. *Emphasizes* the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization with a view to their full integration into the world economy;

22. *Reaffirms* its resolve to give greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the United Nations and thereby to maximize opportunities and mitigate the negative economic and social consequences of globalization;

23. *Emphasizes* the importance of understanding the regional dimension in efforts to enhance global economic governance, inter alia, through fully utilizing the potential of regional commissions in facilitating the sharing of experiences and best practices, within their respective mandates;

24. *Invites* the international community to provide increased technical assistance and financial resources to developing countries in support of their efforts to build institutional capacities;

25. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to enhance its support at the country level for capacity-building activities in developing countries and to strengthen coordination of its efforts in that regard;

26. *Invites* all countries, as well as the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, within their respective mandates, to continue to strengthen interactions with civil society, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations, as important partners in development;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the effect of increasing linkages and interdependence among trade, finance, knowledge, technology and investment on poverty eradication and sustainable development in the context of globalization, with action-oriented recommendations;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".

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Agenda item 88
Operational activities for development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bruno van der Pluijm (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.27

Human Development Report

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/201 of 21 December 2001 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling also its resolution 49/123 of 19 December 1994 on the United Nations Development Programme and the Human Development Report,

Reaffirming decisions 94/15¹ of 10 June 1994 and 95/24² of 16 June 1995 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund on the Report,

Recognizing that the United Nations Development Programme funds, publishes, launches and promotes the Report and disseminates it internationally,

Acknowledging that the Report is an important tool for raising awareness about human development around the world,

Recalling that the Report is the result of an independent intellectual exercise and that the policies governing the operational activities for development of the United Nations system will continue to be set by Member States,

1. *Affirms that the Human Development Report is a separate and distinct exercise which is not an official document of the United Nations, and that the policies governing the operational activities for development of the United Nations system will continue to be set by Member States;*

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 15* (E/1994/35/Rev.1).

² *Ibid.*, 1995, Supplement No. 14 (E/1995/34).



2. *Welcomes* decision 2002/18 of 27 September 2002 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund on programming arrangements for the period 2004-2007, through which a fixed annual amount of regular resources was allocated to finance the Human Development Report Office;

3. *Reaffirms* decision 94/15¹ of the Executive Board, by which it welcomed the decision of the Administrator to improve the process of consultation with Member States and other relevant international bodies to refine the methodologies used in the *Report* with a view to improving its quality and accuracy without compromising its editorial independence;

4. *Also reaffirms* that the preparation of the *Report* should be undertaken in a neutral and transparent manner and in full and effective consultation with Member States and with due regard to the impartial nature and use of sources;

5. *Invites* the Executive Board to include in its annual work plan as of 2003 a separate agenda item on the *Report* to improve the consultation process with Member States regarding the *Report* with a view to improving its quality and accuracy without compromising its editorial independence and to ensure the full implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of the present resolution is reported to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session within the context of the relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council.



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Agenda item 87

Environment and sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kara (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.41

Activities undertaken in preparation for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, proclaiming 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, and its resolution 56/192 of 21 December 2001 on the status of preparations for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003,

Recalling also the provisions of Agenda 21,¹ the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session,² decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session,³ relating to freshwater, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,⁴

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups and announced at the Summit,

Recalling the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to launch programmes of action, with financial and technical assistance, to achieve the Millennium development goal on safe drinking water, namely to halve by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to

¹ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publications, Sales No. E.93.1.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

² Resolution S-19/2, annex.

³ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9 (E/1998/29).

⁴ Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.



afford safe drinking water, as outlined in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁵ and the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation,

Recalling also its resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years,

Noting the efforts made in preparation for the Third World Water Forum and International Ministerial Conference, to be held in Japan in March 2003, and for the elaboration of the *World Water Development Report*,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,⁶

1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by States, the Secretariat, and the organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system that are engaged in inter-agency work related to freshwater and by major groups in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Freshwater, and encourages them to continue their efforts;

2. *Encourages* all Member States, relevant international organizations and major groups to support activities related to the year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions, and to link their relevant activities to the International Year of Freshwater;

3. *Also encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and major groups to take advantage of the International Year of Freshwater to raise awareness of the essential importance of freshwater resources for satisfying basic human needs and for health and food production and the preservation of ecosystems, as well as for economic and social development in general, and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels, and calls for high priority to be given to the serious freshwater problems facing many region, especially developing countries;

4. *Further encourages* voluntary partnerships among Member States, international organizations and major groups to promote activities related to the International Year of Freshwater.

5. *Calls upon* Member States that have not already done so to create national committees or designate focal points in their respective countries to facilitate and promote activities related to the International Year at the local and national levels;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote closer coordination to elaborate and support proposals and undertake activities related to the International Year of Freshwater;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

⁵ See resolution 55/2, para. 19.

⁶ A/57/132.

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**Implementation of the first United Nations Decade
for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)**

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bruno van der Pluijm (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.24

**Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the
Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)**

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

Also recalling its resolution 50/107 of 20 December 1995 on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the International Conference on Financing for Development,¹ the five-year review of the World Food Summit and the World Summit on Sustainable Development² as well as the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization;

Further recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,³ adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit, and their commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

¹ See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-20 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

² See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I.

³ Resolution 55/2, annex.



Recalling its resolution 56/207 of 21 December 2001, entitled "Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication",

Bearing in mind the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth Special Session of the General Assembly,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the Monterrey Consensus and in the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty in many countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular the least developed countries and in sub-Saharan Africa,

Recognizing that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized and others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, resulting in increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

Also recognizing that, for the poverty eradication strategy to be effective, it is imperative for developing countries to be integrated into the world economy and equitably share the benefits of globalization,

Reaffirming that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, fostering, inter alia, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, the promotion and protection of all human rights, and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),⁴

1. *Stresses* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals;

2. *Also stresses* that the deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, security and stability;

3. *Reaffirms* that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving poverty eradication and sustainable development. In order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance through addressing the international finance

⁴ A/57/211.

trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries. To that end, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support to structural and macroeconomic reform and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing market access for developing countries. Efforts to reform the international financial architecture need to be sustained with greater transparency and the effective participation of developing countries in decision-making processes. A universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can substantially stimulate development worldwide, benefiting countries at all stages of development;

4. *Also reaffirms* that good governance at the national level is essential for poverty eradication and sustainable development. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation. Freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

5. *Further stresses* that the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty should contribute to achieving the targets of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, through decisive national action and strengthened international cooperation as part of an integrated approach to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;³

6. *Reaffirms* that the eradication of poverty should be addressed in an integrated way, as set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,² taking into account the importance of the need for the empowerment of women and the sectoral strategies in such areas as education, development of human resources, health, human settlements, rural, local and community development, productive employment, population, environment, water and sanitation, food security, energy and migration, and the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in such a way to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and to strengthen their assets so as to achieve development, security and stability, and in that regard encourages countries to develop their national poverty reduction policies in accordance with their national priorities, including, where appropriate, through poverty reduction strategy papers;

7. *Stresses* the importance of increasing access to and control over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections, for the poor, in particular women, and of improving access for all to basic social services;

8. *Recognizes* the major role that trade can play as an engine of growth and development and in eradicating poverty and in that context stresses the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

9. *Welcomes* the decision contained in the Doha Ministerial Declaration⁵ to place the needs and interests of developing countries at the heart of the Work Programme of the Declaration, including through enhanced market access in products of interest to developing countries;

10. *Recognizes* that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and that to build support for official development assistance, cooperation is necessary to further improve policies and development strategies, both nationally and internationally, to enhance aid effectiveness, and in that regard requests those countries that made announcements of increased official development assistance at the International Conference on Financing for Development¹ to make those resources available as soon as possible;

11. *Urges* developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product of developed countries to least developed countries, as reconfirmed at the Third United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, and encourages developing countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help achieve development goals and targets and acknowledges the efforts of all donors, commends those donors whose official development assistance contributions exceed, reach or are increasing towards the targets, and underlines the importance of undertaking to examine the means and time frames for achieving the targets and goals;

12. *Recognizes* that an enabling domestic environment is vital for mobilizing domestic resources, increasing productivity, reducing capital flight, encouraging the private sector, and attracting and making effective use of international investment and assistance. Efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community;

13. *Notes with great concern* the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of the heavily indebted poor developing countries as constituting an element that adversely affects their sustainable development efforts, noting in that regard that the total debt stock of the developing countries rose from \$1,458 billion in 1990 to \$2,442 billion in 2001, recognizes that creditors and debtors must share the responsibility for preventing and resolving unsustainable debt situations and that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with attaining sustainable growth and development, including poverty reduction and the achievement of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, and in that regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards those objectives;

14. *Calls* for the full, speedy and effective implementation of the enhanced heavily indebted poor countries initiative, which should be fully financed through additional resources, encourages participation in the initiative of all creditors that have not yet done so, and in that regard stresses the need for the donor community

⁵ See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

to provide the additional resources necessary to fulfil the future financial requirements of the initiative, and hence welcomes the agreement that financing for heavily indebted poor countries should be reviewed analytically and separately from International Development Association replenishment requirements but back-to-back with meetings for the fourteenth replenishment of the Association, and calls upon all donors to participate fully in that process;

15. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in that regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

16. *Recognizes* the responsibility of all Governments to adopt policies aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices at the national and international levels;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of disseminating best practices for the reduction of poverty in its various dimensions, taking into account the need to adapt those best practices to suit the social, economic, cultural and historical conditions of each country;

18. *Expresses* its concern that, despite a decrease in the number of undernourished people in some developing countries during the 1990s, nearly two thirds of those countries recorded either no change or an increase in the number of undernourished people, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, and that at current rates of progress, the target to halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger by 2015 is likely to be achieved in some regions but not in others, such as in sub-Saharan Africa, unless substantially strengthened efforts are made at all levels in order to achieve food security;

19. *Emphasizes* the link between poverty eradication and improving access to safe drinking water, and stresses in that regard the objective to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, as reaffirmed in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

20. *Recognizes* that the lack of adequate housing remains a pressing challenge in the fight to eradicate extreme poverty, particularly in the urban areas in developing countries, and in that regard expresses its concern at the rapid growth of slum-dwellers in the urban areas of developing countries, particularly in Africa, and stresses that unless urgent and effective measures and actions are taken at the national and international levels, the number of slum-dwellers, who constitute one third of the world's urban population, will continue to increase, and emphasizes the need for increased efforts with a view to significantly improving the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020;

21. *Welcomes* the efforts made to implement the 20/20 initiative, which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for

sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

22. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, particularly basic education and training, in particular for girls, in the empowerment of those living in poverty, and in that context reaffirms the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,⁶ and recognizes the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for poverty eradication, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education For All programmes as a tool to achieve, inter alia, universal primary education by the year 2015;

23. *Recognizes* the devastating effect of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on human development, economic growth and poverty reduction efforts in many countries, in particular sub-Saharan African countries, and urges Governments and the international community to give urgent priority to the HIV/AIDS crisis, in particular addressing the special needs of developing countries through strengthened cooperation and assistance as well as through the implementation of commitments undertaken, as agreed in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, in June 2001;⁷

24. *Emphasizes* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes production and self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support microcredit schemes and the development of microfinance institutions and their capacities;

25. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and the international levels, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

26. *Stresses*, as recognized in the Millennium Declaration, the importance of meeting the special needs of Africa, where poverty remains a major challenge and where most countries have not benefited fully from the opportunities of globalization, further exacerbating the continent's marginalization;

27. *Welcomes* the New Partnership for Africa's Development as a programme of the African Union whose primary objective is to eradicate poverty and promote sustainable development, on the basis of African ownership and leadership, and enhanced partnership with the international community, and urges the developed countries and the United Nations system to support the Partnership and complement the efforts undertaken by Africa to overcome the challenges it faces;

28. *Stresses* that the goal of halving the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day by 2015 will not be achieved without serious efforts to address the development needs of the least developed countries and to support their efforts in improving the lives of their people, and in that regard calls upon the national

⁶ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000*, Paris, 2000.

⁷ See resolution S-26/2, annex.

Governments of the least developed countries and their development partners to implement fully the commitments contained in the Brussels Declaration⁸ and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,⁹ which were adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001;

29. *Reaffirms* the role of United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, in assisting the national efforts of developing countries, inter alia, in the eradication of poverty, and the need for their funding in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

31. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)".

⁸ A/CONF.191/12.

⁹ A/CONF.191/11.



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Operational activities for development

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.25

Pledging mechanisms and resource mobilization for operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on pledging mechanisms to fund operational activities for development of the United Nations system;¹

(b) Decides to further review, at its fifty-ninth session, in the context of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, the pledging mechanisms and resource mobilization for operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

¹ A/57/332.





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Agenda item 87 (d)

**Environment and sustainable development: implementation
of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or
Desertification, particularly in Africa**

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.17

**Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat
Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought
and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa**

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/196 of 21 December 2001 and other resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,¹

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Italy for the organization of the first session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention in Rome, at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, from 11 to 22 November 2002,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development² and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,³ adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

² *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August to 4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

³ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.



Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups and announced at the Summit.

Welcoming the outcomes of the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, held in Beijing from 16 to 18 October 2002, particularly the decision on making land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation, a new focal area of the Facility.

Recognizing the strong commitment of the international community demonstrated at the World Summit for Sustainable Development and the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility to make the Facility available as a financial mechanism of the Convention pursuant to article 21 of the Convention, and in this regard encourages the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as the supreme body of the Convention, to take the appropriate decision to that effect at its next ordinary session in 2003.

Expressing its deep appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of Cuba to host the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in Havana in September 2003.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁴
2. *Welcomes* the decision taken by the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility that the Facility shall be available to serve as a financial mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,¹ pursuant to article 21 of the Convention, if the Conference of the Parties to the Convention should so decide, and in this regard notes with satisfaction that the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility has requested the Council of the Facility to consider any such decision of the Conference of the Parties with a view to making the necessary arrangements;
3. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties at its sixth session, to be held in Havana in September 2003, responding to the call of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the decision of the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, to consider making the Facility a financial mechanism of the Convention as a means of promoting the availability of financial mechanisms, pursuant to article 21 of the Convention, while recognizing the complementary roles of the Global Environment Facility and the Global Mechanism in providing and mobilizing resources for the elaboration and implementation of action programmes;
4. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties and the Council and Assembly of the Global Environment Facility to continue to collaborate closely and effectively to facilitate the financing of the successful implementation of the Convention by supporting financial mechanisms such as the Facility so as to fully achieve the objectives of the Convention;
5. *Invites* the Council of the Global Environment Facility at its May 2003 meeting to finalize and adopt the operational programme for land degradation, particularly desertification and deforestation;

⁴ A/57/177.

6. *Emphasizes* that, in the light of the ongoing assessment of the implementation of the Convention, the affected developing-country parties need the full and effective support of the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, and other partners for capacity-building and other activities which assist them in meeting their obligations under the Convention;

7. *Welcomes* the successful and substantial third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund which will provide additional resources necessary to enable the Facility to continue to be responsive to the needs and concerns of its recipient countries;

8. *Calls upon* all countries and other entities in a position to do so to make additional contributions to the Global Environment Facility;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the increased number of developing-country parties that have adopted their national, subregional and regional action programmes, and urges affected developing-country parties that have not yet done so to accelerate the process of elaboration and adoption of their action programmes with a view to finalizing them as soon as possible;

10. *Invites* affected developing countries to place the implementation of their action programmes to combat desertification high among their priorities in their dialogue with their development partners;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* the steps being taken by affected developing countries that are parties to the Convention, with the assistance of international organizations and bilateral development partners, to implement the Convention and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of civil society in the elaboration and implementation of national action programmes to combat desertification, and in that regard encourages countries to cooperate at the subregional and regional levels, as appropriate;

12. *Welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the Global Mechanism, and encourages further efforts in that regard for the effective implementation of the Convention;

13. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to contribute to the implementation of those programmes through, inter alia, the conclusion of partnership agreements as well as the bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes that are available to implement the Convention, including contributions from non-governmental organizations and the private sector, and to support the efforts of the developing countries to implement the Convention;

14. *Invites* all parties to pay promptly and in full the contributions required for the core budget of the Convention for the biennium 2002-2003, and urges all parties that have not yet paid their contributions for the year 1999 and/or the biennium 2000-2001 to do so as soon as possible in order to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

15. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and officers of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,⁵ the Convention to Combat Desertification and the

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Convention on Biological Diversity,⁶ and encourages continued cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

16. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme to implement decision 2000/23 of 29 September 2000 of its Executive Board pertaining to the cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the United Nations Development Programme in order to mainstream activities to combat desertification at the national, subregional and regional levels;⁷

17. *Calls upon* Governments, and invites multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties,⁸ and welcomes the financial support already provided by some countries;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

⁶ See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

⁷ See DP/2000/1, para. 231.

⁸ ICCD/COP (1)/11/Add.1 and Corr.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, paras. 7-11.